UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

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# NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

45481 7590 07/16/2008
PAULEY PETERSEN & ERICKSON
2800 W. HIGGINS ROAD
SUITE 365
HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL 60195

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HUY TRAM

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1797

DATE MAILED: 07/16/2008

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.		
10/522,274	09/02/2005	Bradley P Russell	HYI-02-102	8791		
TITLE OF INVENTION: FEEDFORWARD CONTROL PROCESSES FOR VARIABLE OUTPUT HYDROGEN GENERATORS						

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1440	\$300	\$0	\$1740	10/16/2008

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 1SI. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

#### HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FFE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

#### PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

# Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

or Fax (571)-273-2885

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE DEE and DURI ICATION DEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where

appropriate. All further indicated unless corrects maintenance fee notifica	correspondence includir ed below or directed oth tions.	ng the Patent, advance on nerwise in Block 1, by (	rders and notification of a) specifying a new corre	maintenance fees v spondence address	will be ; and/o	mailed to the current r (b) indicating a sepa	correspondence addre rate "FEE ADDRESS	ss as
CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block I for any change of address)			Fee	Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.				
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nonprovisional	NO	\$1440	\$300	\$0		\$1740	10/16/2008	
EXAM	IINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS	1				
NGUYEN, I	HUY TRAM	1797	048-195000	-				
<ol> <li>Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).</li> </ol>			2. For printing on the patent front page, list					
			(I) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,					
☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.☐ "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47: Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer			(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is					
Number is required.			listed, no name will be	·				
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(A) NAME OF ASSI	GNEE		(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY	and STATE OR	COUNT	RY)		
Please check the appropr	iate assignee category or	categories (will not be p	rinted on the patent):	Individual 🗖 C	orporat	ion or other private gro	up entity 🚨 Govern	ment
4a. The following fee(s)	are submitted:	4	b. Payment of Fee(s): (Ples	ase first reapply a	ny pre	lously paid issue fee	shown above)	
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Advance Order - # of Copies   The Dip			The Director is hereby	Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any				
			overpayment, to Depo	sit Account Numb	eř	(enclose a	n extra copy of this for	m).
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45481	7590 07/16/2008		EXAM	UNER	
PAULEY PETERSEN & ERICKSON			NGUYEN, HUY TRAM		
2800 W. HIGGINS ROAD		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER		
SUITE 365 HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL 60195			1797 DATE MAILED: 07/16/200	8	

# Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 398 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 398 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.	Applicant(s)	
10/522,274	RUSSELL ET AL.	
Examiner	Art Unit	
HUY-TRAM NGUYEN	1797	

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308. 1. This communication is responsive to the amendment dated April 18, 2008. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10 and 12-20.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a)  $\square$  All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the: 1. T Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) Including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date

(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of

each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. 

DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

# Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date

4. T Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. Notice of Informal Patent Application

Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date

7. T Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. X Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Other .

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#### DETAILED ACTION

### Allowable Subject Matter

- Claims 1-10 and 12-20 are allowed.
- 2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
- 3. Regarding Claim 1, the closest prior arts, Kuipers et al. (WO 01/16022) and Acker (US Patent No. 6,322,917 B1) disclose the claimed process steps except for the feed forward control steps for determining the conditions of the generator including process temperatures, conditions of the raw materials and selecting predetermined feed rates for the raw materials using the conditions of the generator, the conditions of the raw materials and a look up table of predetermined values.
- 4. Claims 2-8 are dependent claims of claim 1.
- Regarding Claim 9, no prior art can be found for the steps of controlling a feed rate of each of the raw materials to substantially the predetermined feed rates and performing a transition rate-limiting operation.
- Claims 10 and 12-15 are dependent claims of claim 9.
- 7. Regarding Claim 16, no prior art can be found for the claimed algorithm comprising determining a target hydrocarbon fuel flow (B) and a current hydrocarbon fuel flow (A), then determining a present difference (D)=(B)-(A), and then comparing said difference (D) with a predetermined threshold value to determine whether said fuel processor is turning up production of hydrogen, turning down production of hydrogen or operating at a steady state mode and wherein a higher ratio of water to fuel and air to fuel is added when said fuel processor is turning up production for a preset period of

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time than when said fuel processor is operating at a steady state mode and wherein a lower ratio of water to fuel and air to fuel is added when said fuel processor is in a turning down of production mode.

- Claims 17-20 are dependent claims of claim 16.
- 9. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

#### Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUY-TRAM NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)270-3167. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-THURS: 6:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Walter Griffin can be reached on 571-272-1447. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

HTN 7/7/08

/Walter D. Griffin/ Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1797